

District IV Commissioner Romney Rogers



It's that time of year, again! Your City Commission has returned from summer recess and meetings resumed on Aug. 16. School buses are rolling, so please be careful on your travels.

City Budget – The first public hearing on the FY 2017 City Budget will be held during the Sept. 7 Commission Meeting (moved to Wednesday due to the Labor Day Holiday when City Hall will be closed). The second hearing is set for Monday, Sept. 12. Both hearings will take place at 6 PM in the City Commission Chambers at Fort Lauderdale City Hall.

The Preliminary Budget was presented to the City Commission on July 12. At the meeting, we voted unanimously to pass a resolution proposing no increase to our current millage rate of 4.1193 per \$1,000 of taxable value for FY 2017, which begins on Oct. 1. This marks the 10th consecutive year that Fort Lauderdale has maintained the same millage rate. The City Budget page is located here: <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/city-manager-s-office/budget-cip-and-grants-division/annual-budgets>.

Speaking of the budget, our Budget Division recently earned the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association. This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting and recognizes adherence to stringent principles and best practices to create a quality budget, while ensuring sound management of our financial resources.

Riverland Road Development – On Aug. 17, the Planning and Zoning Board voted 3:3 to recommend to the City Commission that the plat application for 13 lots on the >5-acre property located at 2681 Riverland Road be denied. (Per Assistant City Attorney D'Wayne Spence, legal advisor to the board, a tie vote constitutes denial of a request.) Next, the Applicant Team may be ready to appear before the City Commission in October, at the earliest. (By then, minutes of the Planning and Zoning Board Meeting will be in the agenda back-up for review.) Thanks to all those who have provided comments.

The link to the Aug. 16 video of the City Commission's preliminary discussion about this parcel is at http://fortlauderdale.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=588. When that opens, please click on the first agenda item, "City Commission Reports." I gave my report first and raised the issue. So, you can simply watch from the beginning, or fast forward to 2 minutes, 10 seconds into my remarks, to hear the discussion from the start.

Town of Davie Rezoning – At my request, during the City Commission's Aug. 16 Meeting, we adopted Resolution 16-118, opposing the rezoning of the Anchor Yacht property at 3541 W SR 84 in the Town of Davie, from Residential Multifamily – Hacienda Village to Community Business Marina. The parcel is across the river from Lauderdale Isles, and I am grateful to our neighbors for being proactive and for submitting comments to both Fort Lauderdale and Davie officials. To accomplish this change, Davie proposes to use its flexible zoning-unit allocation (residential-to-commercial flex). Fort Lauderdale is a contiguous municipality, and as such, we have asked the Broward County Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department to conduct a compatibility review. The Davie Town Council has received our resolution and has continued the matter until October.

Upcoming Telephone Town Hall Meetings (TTHMs) – Commissioner Roberts' (District I) is Tuesday, Aug. 30; Commissioner McKinzie's (District III) is Tuesday, Sept. 13. My TTHM is set for **Thursday, Oct. 13**. For the link to previously recorded TTHMs, see <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/city-manager-s-office/public-affairs-office/telephone-town-hall-meetings>. All calls take place from 7 - 8 PM. The dial-in number is 1-888-410-3427.

Help Name Our New Boat – Our Parks and Recreation Department has a new addition to its fleet and we need your help picking a catchy name! The new vessel cleans the Intracoastal Waterway by picking up debris, such as trash, wood, palm fronds, coconuts, and more. The shiny, silver boat travels about 10-20 miles per day along our waterways and is docked at the Police Department Marina, located in District IV at Cox's Landing, 1784 SE 15 Street. To participate, please e-mail your entries to AngelaD@fortlauderdale.gov by Aug. 31. The winning name will be announced in September, and the winner will receive a \$50 gift certificate to a local restaurant, along with a ride aboard the new vessel!

Volunteers Needed! The Broward Maritime Museum, 303 SW 3 Avenue, needs volunteers to help design and build exhibits. If you or someone you know is an artist or craftsman skilled at model making, ship building, crafting small figurines, or designing large-scale murals, please contact Bill Raymond at 954-608-1713, billraymond10@yahoo.com, or Judy Summers at 954-463-2683, judysky2@hotmail.com, to lend a hand. The first exhibit, now being built by Wood-Chip Marine Lumber & Supplies, will portray life along the New River in the 1830s.

Staff Transition – City Zoning Administrator Anthony Greg Fajardo (954-828-6852, AFajardo@fortlauderdale.gov) has been named Director of our Sustainable Development Department after more than 10 years with the City.

- My City Hall Office Hours are Mondays from 4 - 5:30 PM and Tuesdays from 9 AM - Noon (in non-Commission weeks). To schedule a meeting or sign up to receive this newsletter and other information about what's going on in the City, contact MJ Matthews at 954-828-5028 or mmatthews@fortlauderdale.gov.